



**WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**March 21, 2008**

**LOCATION:** Department of Health  
Creekside Three at CenterPoint, 2nd Floor, Room 1  
20435 72nd Avenue South  
Kent, Washington 98032

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Paul Weatherly, CDP, Chair  
Cathy Doran, CDP, LMHC  
Deb Cummins, DSHS/DASA Representative  
David Burkett, CDP  
Grace Creasman, CDP

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Sharon Chambers, CDP, Vice-Chair  
Karen Christensen, CDP

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Robert Nicoloff, Executive Director  
Leslie Magby, Acting Program Manager

**AAG PRESENT:**

Elizabeth Baker, Assistant Attorney General

**1. CALL TO ORDER – Paul Weatherly, CDP, Chair**

**9:18 A.M.  
(9:57 A.M.=Quorum)**

**1.1** The meeting agenda was approved as published.

**1.2** The January 17, 2008 meeting minutes were approved with the following amendment:

- Susan Chambers was absent.

## **2. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 2.1** February issue of “The Sentinel News for Department Employees.”
- 2.2** “We Aspire” Health Professions Quality Assurance February 2008 monthly report.
- 2.3** Department of Health “Top Accomplishments for 2007” report.

The items listed under the consent agenda were approved by a single motion, without further discussion.

## **3. REGISTERED COUNSELOR LEGISLATION UPDATE**

Robert Nicoloff provided a handout to committee members, outlining key dates for implementation of SSHB 2674. The Registered Counselor credential will be abolished July 1, 2010. New credentials are being created, including a Chemical Dependency Professional Trainee (CDPT) by July 1, 2009.

There is one more legislative session before the new rules will become effective. Committee members agreed there is a lot of work to be done in establishing rules. There may be a need for workgroups to assist in rulemaking, between June and September 2008.

Deb Cummins mentioned that DASA’s rule WAC 388-805-210 should be moved to the department’s Chapter 246-811 WAC. Ms. Cummins pointed out the difference in language where supervision is addressed in the rules. In DASA rules, supervision is described as “clinical supervision.” In the department’s rules, “approved supervision” is the language used.

The question arose if a chemical dependency treatment agency is dually licensed, will their counselors have to become CDPTs in order to provide services. The answer is yes, if the agency is DASA certified. Paul Weatherly is concerned that individuals seeking treatment will be diagnosed incorrectly and treated for something they do not actually have.

### **4SHB 1103 LEGISLATION UPDATE**

Mr. Nicoloff provided handouts of 4SHB 1103 to committee members. Section 7 of this bill expands the Secretary’s authority in conducting criminal background checks on applicants, including the ability to view pending convictions or arrests.

Deb Cummins feels that this legislation creates more barriers to certification as most people in the chemical dependency field have criminal backgrounds.

Committee members agreed that Chemical Dependency Professional applicants and providers need to be educated in what the department’s application process entails.

## 4. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES – Paul Weatherly, CDP, Chair

### 4.1 Credentialing sub-committee discussion and update

The states of Alaska and Florida were reviewed by committee members to determine if the states certification requirements were substantially equivalent to the standard for certification in Washington.

Committee members determined Alaska’s Chemical Dependency Counselor II credential is substantially equivalent.

Committee members determined Alaska’s Chemical Dependency Counselor I does not meet the requirements of substantial equivalence.

Committee members determined Florida’s following credentials are substantially equivalent:

- Certified Addiction Counselor
- Certified Addiction Professional

Committee members determined Florida’s Certified Addiction Specialist does not meet the requirements of substantial equivalence. **ACTION** – Deb Cummins will research the Florida Specific Exam.

Jim Benbow asked committee members if the required chemical dependency competencies were defined in statute. In RCW 18.205.020 the term is defined as “core competencies of chemical dependency counseling.” WAC 246-811-010 defines the competencies as “addiction counseling competencies.”

Cathy Doran stated the competencies seemed overwhelming and would like to see them more manageable for people. Out of the ninety required educational credits for certification, forty-five are required to be in coursework specific to chemical dependency. There has been a problem with applicants not getting credit for classes taken, particularly with students who have received their masters or bachelor degree.

Committee members agreed that until barriers are reduced for graduates with a master’s degree or higher, the chemical dependency field will not go in the direction it is intended.

A sub-committee titled “Alternative Training Sub-Committee” was created to examine the current educational requirements, including the individual and group counseling requirements. Sub-committee members include Deb Cummins, Grace Creasman, and Cathy Doran. **ACTION** – Sub-committee members will review educational requirements and make a proposal for alternative training.

### 4.2 This item was tabled until the next meeting.

## 5. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL (AAG) REPORT – Elizabeth Baker, AAG

Elizabeth Baker informed committee members they don't have the authority to recommend changing a rule that affects another profession. Based on the current DASA rules in Chapter 388 WAC, physicians are not authorized to be clinical supervisors. Committee members believe licensed physicians who are American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) certified should have the privilege of being clinical supervisors. The supervision standards for chemical dependency professionals are addressed in DASA's rules. Committee members felt that the supervision requirements should be incorporated into the department's rules and should include permission for ASAM certified physicians to be clinical supervisors.

## 6. MANAGER REPORTS

**6.1** Robert Nicoloff discussed the current budget with board members. The February interim report indicated a current balance of (\$68,485.)

**6.2** Leslie Magby presented current licensing statistics to board members:

Current License Totals	March 11, 2008	November 27, 2007
Total active licenses	2646	2645
Total inactive licenses	3	3
Total Retired	89	91
Total Suspended	25	25
Total Expired	1000	940

Exam Results	December 2007	March 2007
Applicants sitting for Exam	70	73
Applicants that passed the exam	48	55
Applicants that failed the exam	13	12
Applicants that missed sitting for the exam	9	6
Pass Rate	79%	82%

**6.3** Leslie Magby presented current disciplinary statistics to board members:

### Chemical Dependency Professionals OPEN CASE STEP REPORT March 11, 2008

Intake and Assessment:	1
Investigation:	40
Case Disposition	28
Pending Service	10
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF OPEN CASES:</b>	<b>79</b>

- 6.4** Leslie Magby provided a handout to committee members of the new sexual misconduct rules that were filed for health care professionals. WAC 246-811-020 is the sexual misconduct rule pertaining to chemical dependency professionals.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**8. UPDATE ON THE NORTHWEST CONSORTIUM OF CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY EDUCATORS (NCCDE) – Paul Weatherly, CDP, Chair**

Paul Weatherly informed committee members that Doug Allen from DASA would like to see something in writing, supporting the principles of educators rather than just in previous meeting minutes. **ACTION** – Robert Nicoloff and Paul Weatherly will coordinate a formal, written statement.

The consortium is creating national standards for the chemical dependency profession. The goal of the consortium is to facilitate the transferability between programs.

There is a consortium meeting on April 14, 2008 in Ellensburg, Washington.

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**1:26 P.M.**

The next scheduled meetings for 2008:

June 13, 2008 – Kent, Washington  
October 17, 2008 – Kent, Washington  
December 5, 2008 – Kent, Washington

Submitted by:

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Leslie Magby, Acting Program Manager  
Chemical Dependency Certification  
Advisory Committee

Approved by:

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Paul Weatherly, CDP, Chair  
Chemical Dependency Certification  
Advisory Committee

